Application. No.

: 10/022,297

Filing Date

December 12, 2001

Amendment Date :

May 24, 2004

Office Action Date: March 30, 2004

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following comments are responsive to the rejections

set forth by the Examiner in the March 30, 2004 Final Office Action.

Claims 4, 13-16, 19-22, 25, 26 and 33-37 are pending in this application. In the Final

Office Action, the Examiner allowed Claims 4 and 13-15, as confirmed in the April 21, 2004

Interview Summary. The Examiner rejected Claims 16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and

rejected Claims 20-22, 25 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 33-37 were previously

withdrawn from consideration in response to a restriction requirement.

In response to the Final Office Action, Claims 16, 19-22, 25, 26 and 33-37 are canceled

herein. Thus, only allowed Claims 4 and 13-15 remain in the present application.

In view of the cancellation of the rejected and withdrawn claims, Applicants respectfully

submit that the present application is in condition for allowance with Claims 4 and 13-15.

Applicants respectfully request prompt allowance of the present application.

If there are any impediments to the prompt allowance of this application or if there are

any questions or issues that may be resolved via a telephone interview, Applicants invite the

Examiner to call the undersigned attorney of record at 949-721-2849 (direct) or at the general

office telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE_MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: MAY 24, 2004

By:

T. Sewell

gistration No. 31,567

Attorney of Record

2040 Main Street, Fourteenth Floor

Irvine, California 92614

949-760-0404

JTS-19937.DOC 20040524/2

-4-